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Betty Burns of Lot-A-Luv Daycare Honored at Grace Hill Women's Business Center Wall of Fame Ceremony

ST. LOUIS -"I love seeing families make positive changes in their lives--that's my reward," said Betty Burns, who has owned and managed Lot-A-Luv Daycare in north St. Louis city for 17 years. "My services allow families to make good choices for living, and I love to work with children and watch them learn how to make healthy decisions for themselves. Children are our future, and contributing to children's wellbeing is the primary purpose of my work and life," she said.

Four years ago she was able to open an additional daycare site in St. Louis county. Both daycare centers serve 108 children from six weeks to 12 years of age. Lot-A-Luv Daycare employs 27, including a cook, van drivers and certified teachers.

Burns was introduced to the Grace Hill Women's Business Center through the Area Resources for Community and Human Services, a cooperating agency, from whom she received a growth grant. "The WBC is a great center," she said. "It offers vital resources. Kristi Knight, in particular, can give you just the information and referrals that you need. I have a degree in accounting and business management, but if I needed, she could have walked me through a business plan. And she was able to steer me to growth workshops and other programs that are very useful to me and my business."

Betty Burns was born in southeast Missouri. She received a degree in business from Southeast Missouri State University. The family moved to St. Louis in 1968 after her husband left the military. Later she earned 27 hours of early childhood education and her certification from the Community College. Burns husband, now retired, was also in education and encouraged her to start her own daycare center. He taught at East St. Louis Community College, in the East St. Louis School District and later in the St. Louis School district over a period of 30 years. "Now he is active in my center," Betty said, "especially doing those maintenance jobs that you need a man to do."

The Burns' raised two daughters who have both earned their college degrees in business and are working in accounting in the Atlanta, Ga. area.

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